

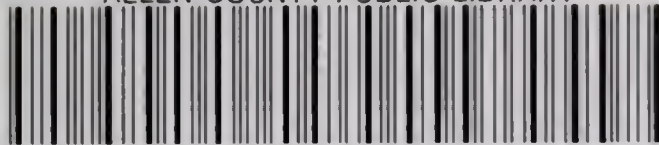
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The Casey Family

of ✓

East Greenwich,
Rhode Island

C. A. Meader



September 1887

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The Casey Family of East Greenwich

An account of "Some men who lived on Main Street
in a Small Town."

From an address delivered in St. Luke's Church, East
Greenwich, Rhode Island, by Rev. Charles A. Meader.



Reprinted from the East Greenwich News of September
5, 1927, and published by subscription. Proceeds from
sale of this booklet donated to the Executive Committee
of the 250th Anniversary Celebration as a contribution
to the Celebration Fund.

September, 1927



HARRY WEIR CASEY

Accidentally drowned near Narragansett Pier while a student at Sheffield Scientific School, Yale University

Born 1861—Died 1880

The Casey Family of East Greenwich

This is the account of some men who lived on Main Street in a small town.

The Casey tablet, which is on the middle of the north wall of St. Luke's Church in East Greenwich, R. I., is dedicated to the memory of Harry Weir Casey, a young and brilliant student, heading his class in the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University, who was accidentally drowned in 1880, near Narragansett Pier.

It reads as follows:

*In the Church of His Ancestors
Consecrated Alike to the Memory
of Earthly Sorrow and to the
Joyful Hope of Immortality
Gen. Thomas Lincoln and
Emma Weir Casey
Place This Tablet in Remembrance
of Their Beloved Son*

HARRY WEIR CASEY

*Born June 17, A. D., 1861
Died September 1, A. D., 1880
May the Lessons of His Upright
Life and Christian Character Teach
To Others the Beauty of Holiness
And Turn Many to Righteousness.*

Those who knew this young man during his brief life unite in adding their tribute to his lovable and manly character as well as to his high endowments.

* * * * *

It is fitting in this year of the Town's 250th Anniversary to tell the story of the Casey family of East Greenwich.

O'Hart, in his interesting and learned book on "Irish Pedigrees," says that the Thomas Casey who was settled in Newport by 1658 was descended from the Ui Nialls (O'Neals) of Tyrone, through Cathasach, great great grandson of Baodun Ui Niall, 137th King of Ireland.—It's an old country, that. The word Cathasach means *brave*, and so the patronymic (Ui Cathasac) O'Casey, as applied to this branch, means Sons of the Brave.

But remote genealogical traditions are of doubtful certitude. All that is positively believed as to their ancestry

by the Caseys of the old East Greenwich line is the tale remembered by the Thomas Casey who was in Newport by 1658. to the effect that he was the orphan son of parents killed in the Irish Massacre of 1641. when so many of "the Pale" lost their lives. and that his nurse. rescuing him. carried him to England. where Linsfolk reared him. and whence he emigrated to Rhode Island.

ROYAL BLOODED YANKEES

More than this as to the family's origin is veritable guesswork. Genealogies before the 17th century are not easy to trace. Our Caseys have distinguished themselves so well that they have no need of kings and lords as ancestors. Royal ancestry is no real distinction in New England genealogy—of a sort. In fact. such were the ancient privileges and propensities of princes that the real distinction would be the ability to prove that one had *no* kings among his forefathers.

Ignorance of the principles of historical research. together with a strange obsession as to the desirability of exalted origin. has resulted in some instances of the transmission of traditions which smack of mythology more than genealogy. After all. oftentimes. the castle which was the residence of baronial ruffians differed from the modern jail chiefly in that it obstructed. rather than served. the arms of outraged justice.

The "fierce light which beats upon a throne" is not more relentlessly revealing than the glare of Main Street. in which. literally. several generations of Caseys lived and honorably endured the scrutiny of their neighbors.

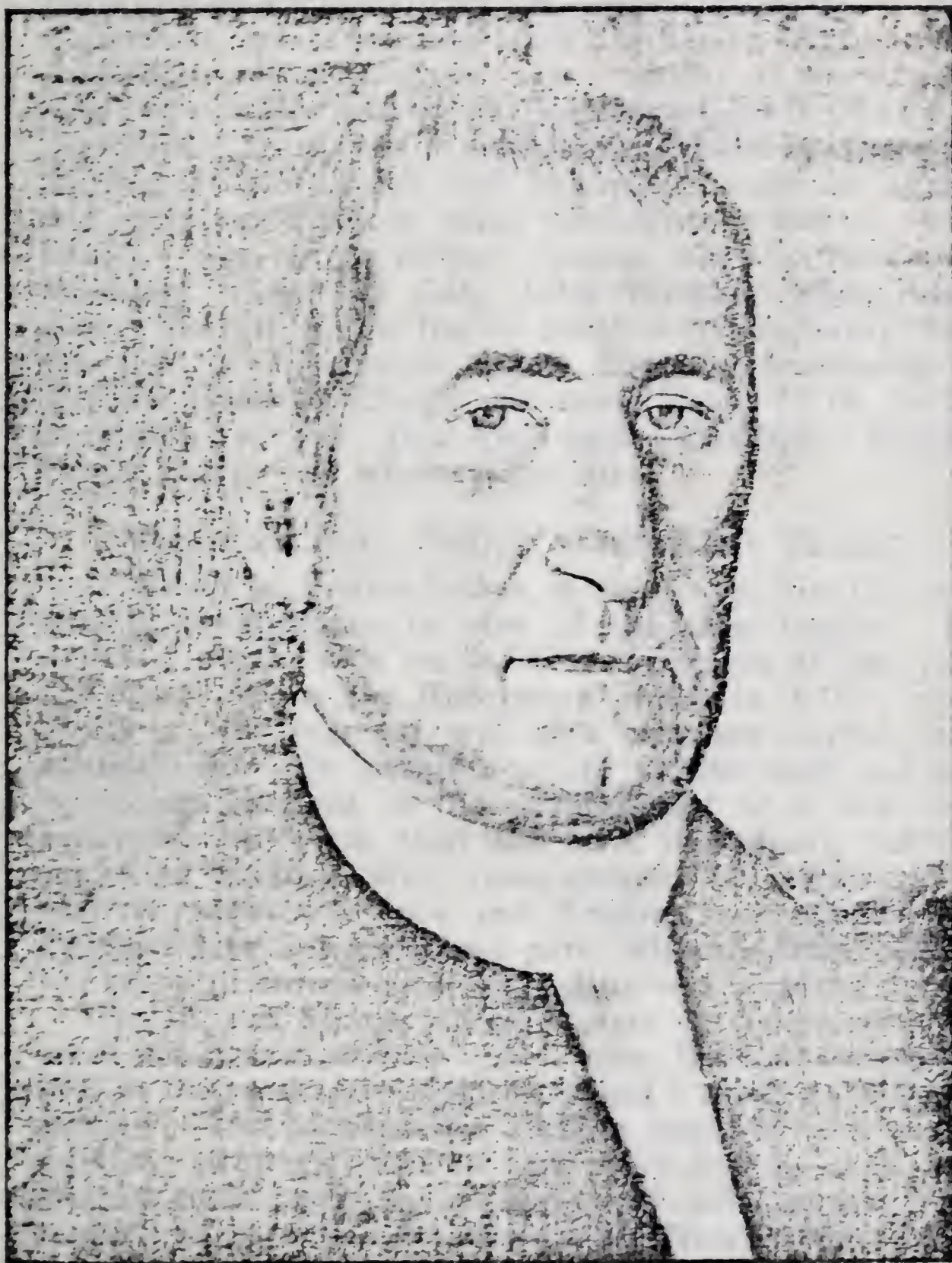
* * * * *

THE IMMIGRANT ANCESTOR

Whatever might have been the ancestry of Thomas Casey of Newport. we are not in the dark as to the achievements of his posterity. Their deeds are written large in local and national history.

CASEY SOLDIERS

As one reads thoughtfully that tablet. and tries to visualize in imagination the life of the six generations of Caseys which are its background. one realizes that it not only speaks of a young man cut off untimely. but that it express the consistent ideals handed down in his line from father to son. Thomas Lincoln Casey's title. General. is suggestive. It was a military family. General Thomas Lincoln Casey had a son. Thomas Lincoln. Jr., who rose to the rank of Colonel of Engineers: a brother



SILAS CASEY

East Greenwich Merchant

Born 1734—Died 1814

Edward Wanton who, as Lieutenant of the 22nd Infantry, was killed in South Dakota in 1891, fighting the Sioux; a brother Silas, who rose to high rank in the navy. His father, Silas, was a Major General. An uncle, who began the study of medicine under Dr. Charles Eldredge, of East Greenwich, was a surgeon with the Union Army. His grandfather, Wanton Casey, was a soldier of the Revolution and a charter member of the Kentish Guards. His great-grandfather, Silas, was commissioned Ensign by Governor Stephen Hopkins, and did important work in raising and equipping a Rhode Island contingent in the war with France. The latter's father, Thomas, had also been commissioned Ensign by Gov. John Wanton, while Adam Casey, the first of this line to reside in Kent County, bore the title of Lieutenant. The original commission of Thomas Casey as Ensign still exists, dated 1738, in the possession of his great-great-great grandson, Edward Pearce Casey,—of whom more later.

THE COLONIAL PERIOD A MILITARY PERIOD

It would be presumptuous to try to explain this persistence of militancy in men of the same family. No doubt it began with the warlike conditions of the 18th Century. When the Revolution ended in 1783, practically a 100 years of well-nigh incessant conflict were rounded out. In addition to the conflict with sea and wilderness involved in the establishment of a new civic society on this coast, there had been, immediately following King Philip's War, three-quarters of a century of warfare between France and England, in which New England bore a burdensome part, with the brief breathing spaces of formal peace marred by war with the savage.

Out of this ancient turmoil came the impetus which made the Caseys soldiers. But other families, established here in the same early times, have had a decidedly different history. The people called Quakers stayed outside of the fighting, although some of these died for the faith that was in them, with an alacrity costly to posterity. We might well do with a few more descendants of Mary Dyer.

FAMILY CHARACTER

Many families furnished men casually for military service according to their capacity for personal sacrifice, and the pressure and call of the times. *But the Caseys of East Greenwich were represented by at least one man officially qualified to bear the title of a military officer for 200 years—from 1738, or earlier, until 1925. This*

consistent direction of patriotic service may be partly explained by family circumstances, traits and talents, but most of all by two powerful spiritual forces called character and destiny.

THE MERCHANTS OF NARRAGANSETT BAY

Take each generation as it came along and see how the men reacted to the demands of the hour. The first two of East Greenwich were Thomas and Silas, merchants and ship owners—father and son: both of them holding political office by election, thereby proving capacity to serve and to lead. Already by 1759, when he married at the age of 25, Silas was well launched in the mercantile career which marked him as one of those famous ship owners of Narragansett Bay, whose enterprise laid the foundation of Rhode Island's industrial history. His ships sailed to the Mother Country, to the West Indies, and to the Labrador fishing grounds. On the enterprise of these two men, and of others like them, depended the entrance of New England into the larger life of the world. The experiences and complications of their trade helped to develop the sense of local community rights and manhood values upon which American Democracy rests.

THE REVOLUTION

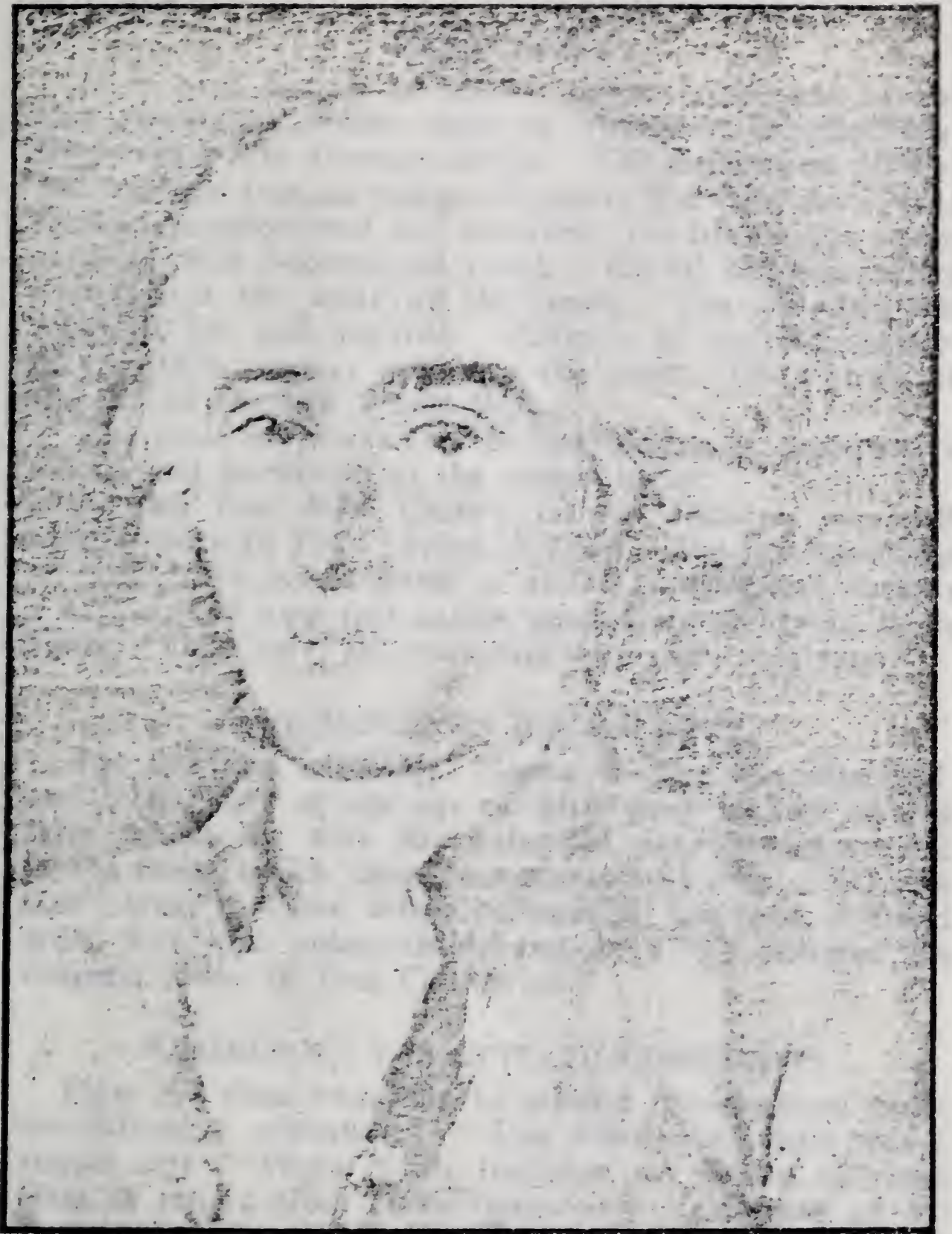
While their prosperity was at its height came the American Revolution. In that movement, Silas Casey risked his property, and the life of his only son. He was owner of four privateering vessels—the Greenwich, the General Warren, the Gen. Sterling, and the Gen. Greene. By the capture of his shipping his wealth was diminished.

WANTON CASEY

His only son, Wanton, who built the Casey home (still standing) had a stirring boyhood. At the age of 14 he was one of those, as already stated, who secured the charter of the Kentish Guards. The next year came Concord and Lexington, and he served in the ranks till 1779, when, his health impaired, his father sent him to France for study and mercantile training till the war was over.

FRANCE

How he was frequently a guest, at dinner, of Benjamin Franklin, how, on such an occasion, he met that illustrious youth, but little older than himself, the Marquis de La Fayette, how he was presented at the Court of Louis XVI,—these episodes of his sojourn in France are all



WANTON CASEY

East Greenwich Banker. Charter Member of
Kentish Guards

Born 1760—Died 1842

related in his letters, still cherished by his great-grandson, Mr. E. P. Casey, above-mentioned, who also possesses the portrait in which he is painted in the garb he wore at Court.

HARD TIMES

It is hard for us to realize public conditions in the first twenty or thirty years of American national life. Everywhere was disorganization. The devastation of war had brought ruin to many. Property had been destroyed; families impoverished and bereaved; the life of the camp, as usual, had demoralized youth. Credal dissensions had complicated the strife of the times. The churches and religious life had suffered. America in the last decades of the 18th century was, for the times, like Europe at the end of the late World War.

The great need was for the application of constructive talents and leadership in the arts of peace.

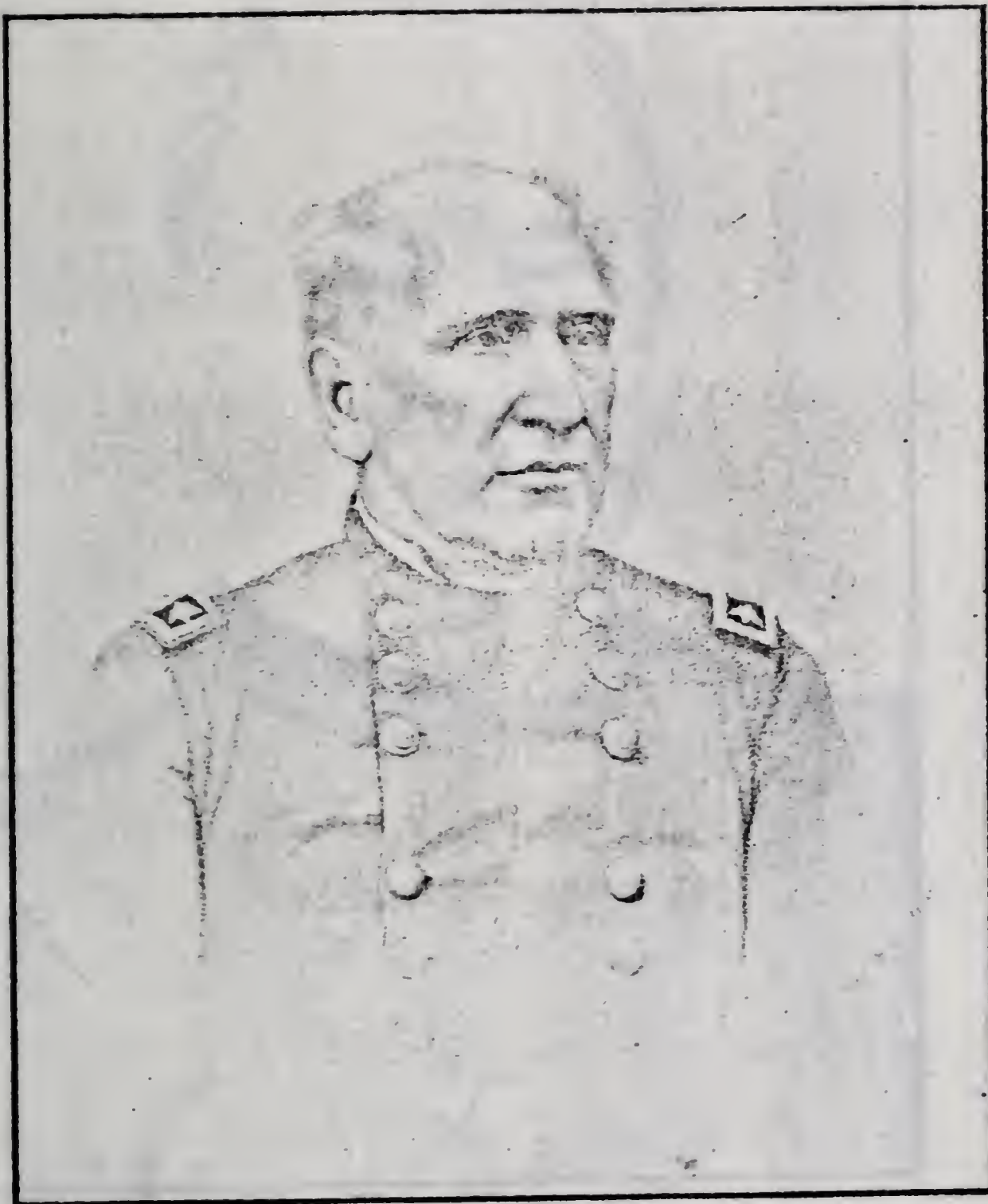
At this time Silas Casey's father, Thomas, was still living—born in 1706, dying in 1797. His life, spanning 91 years, had seen a horde of exiled frontiersmen become a nation, and now this nation seemed almost dying at its birth. The Caseys felt the crisis with their neighbors.

THE HOUSE ON BOSTON NECK

The old firm of Casey, Greene & Son was dissolved, and Silas Casey at the age of fifty went to live on the farm which his wife had inherited near Saunderstown, in the home which their descendants still own. Wanton Casey went to Ohio, where he married, but soon returned with wife and oldest child, and in 1797 resumed his business career in East Greenwich.

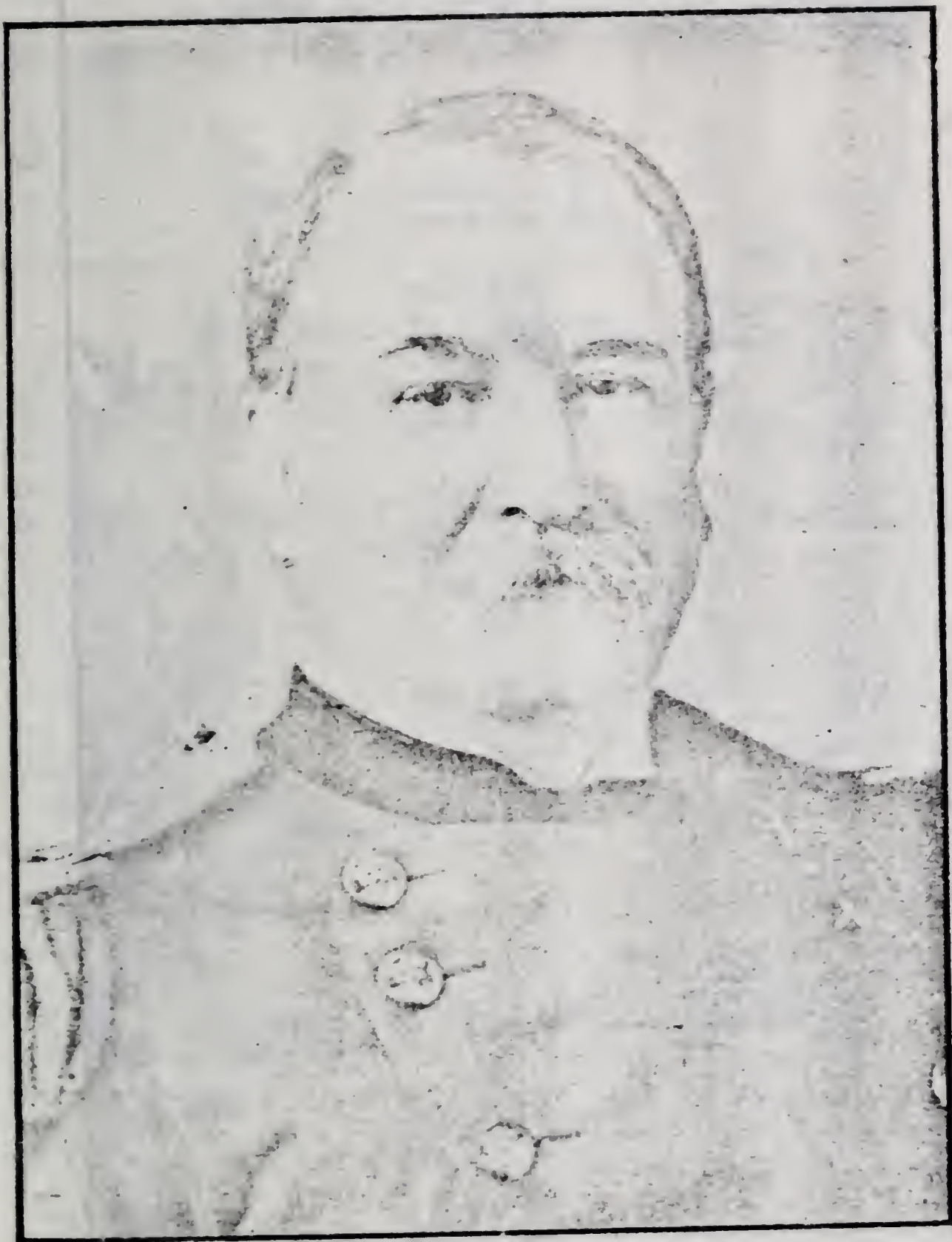
REBUILDING A SHATTERED COMMUNITY

How did these two help to rebuild the shattered post-revolutionary community? The older man's part was a simple one. There is no tradition of public activities after he retired from trade except as a Vestryman of St. Paul's Church, North Kingstown. The old house of worship stood then where the monument to Dr. MacSparran, 36 years its Rector, stands, near the Post Road, a little south of Allenton. No record of his baptism is to be found in its ancient archives, but he must have been familiar with the Church from the days when he rode down the Post Road a-courting Abigail Coggeshall, the Quakeress, and he probably had many interesting associations with the consecrated spot. The year of his marriage was the year of Dr. MacSparran's death. He must have



SILAS CASEY

Maj. Gen., U. S. V. Author of Casey's "Military Tactics"



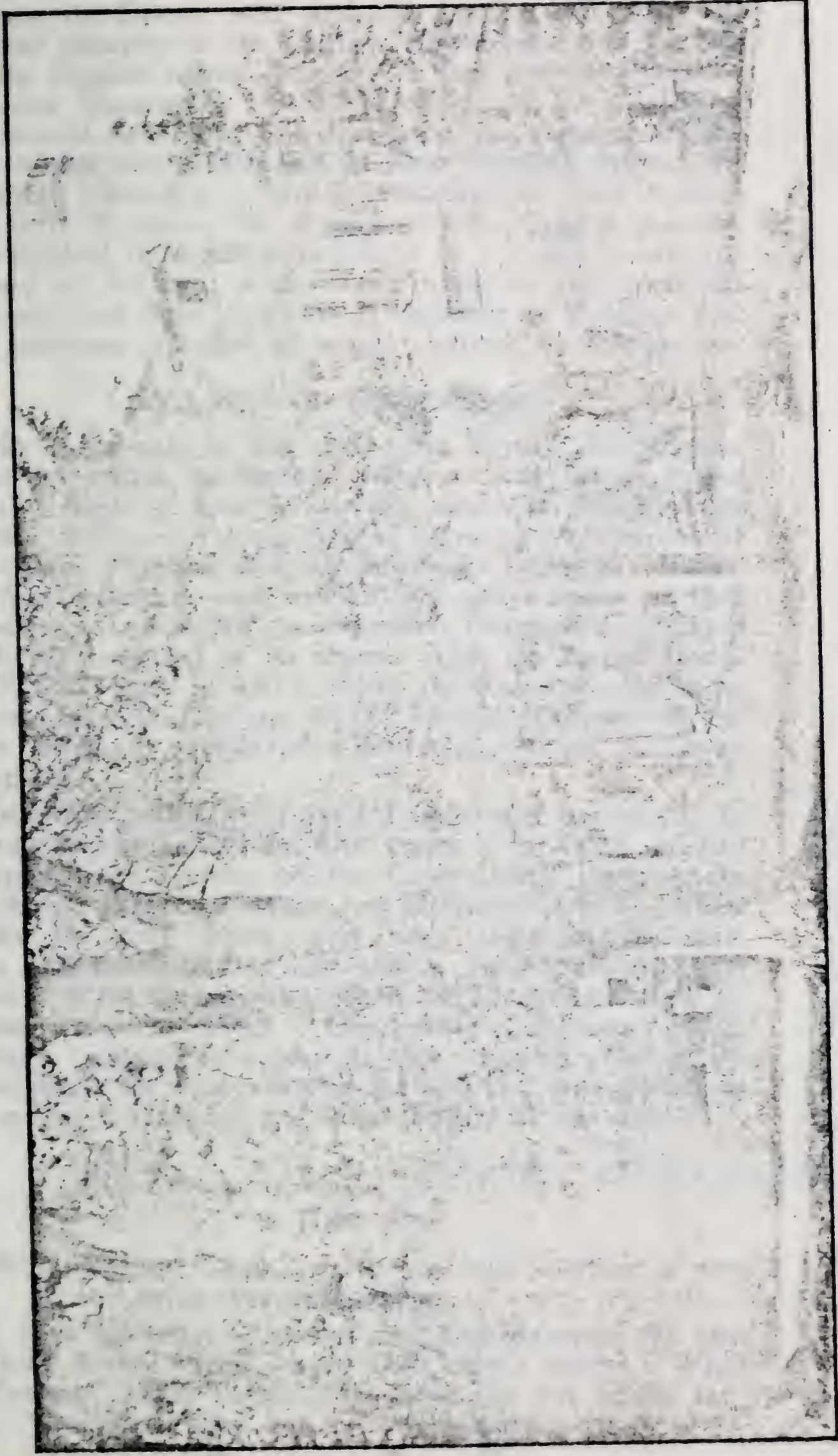
BRIG. GEN. THOMAS LINCOLN CASEY, U. S. A.

Chief of Engineers

Born 1831—Died 1896



Portrait of Thomas Jefferson
1793-1826
1793-1826



THE CASEY HOUSE

Built in 1808. Originally stood on Main Street, corner of Division. Later moved to its present location on Spencer Avenue, Warwick

known the Doctor well, and also known well what the Doctor thought of the English Government and the life of the English ruling class in his day (see MacSparran's *America Dissected*). This knowledge of Dr. MacSparran would have kept him free from the common prejudice which was widespread in New England against the Anglican Church as a British institution of Tory tendencies. At all events, the weight of Silas Casey's character was applied to stabilize and hold to a steady course the society of his day, when men's opinions and standards wavered, and their lives were as uncertain of direction and safe outcome as a fleet of vessels scattered by a hurricane.

A LAYER OF FOUNDATIONS

His son's part in life was more active. Eight years after his return he became cashier of the Rhode Island Central Bank of East Greenwich, which he managed for twenty years,—a valuable public service. He was one of the charter members of King Solomon's Lodge of Masons, its first secretary, and one of his early duties in that capacity was to record the impressive ceremonies connected with the reception of its charter from the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island in 1810, when the Rt. Rev. Alexander Viets Griswold, Bishop of the Eastern Diocese—all of New England outside of Connecticut—acted as Grand Chaplain.

In 1832 when St. Luke's Parish was organized, he became a member of its first vestry. In 1808 he had completed the erection of the Casey home, then on the southwest corner of Main and Division Streets. There under the roof where were born some of his children and grandchildren and also a great grandson, Mr. Samuel Ward Greene, and others of his kindred died, he passed away in 1842. Dependable, judicious, public spirited, patriotic—he was of that valuable class which throughout the early years of the republic were guardians of ancient landmarks, and wise builders of the state.

* * * * *

A NEW ERA

With Wanton Casey's death we were entering a new era. A new crisis was approaching.

I have said that Character and Destiny were the two spiritual forces which shaped these men's careers. What is Destiny? God knows. Its secret lies hid in the saying, "Many are called, but few are chosen."

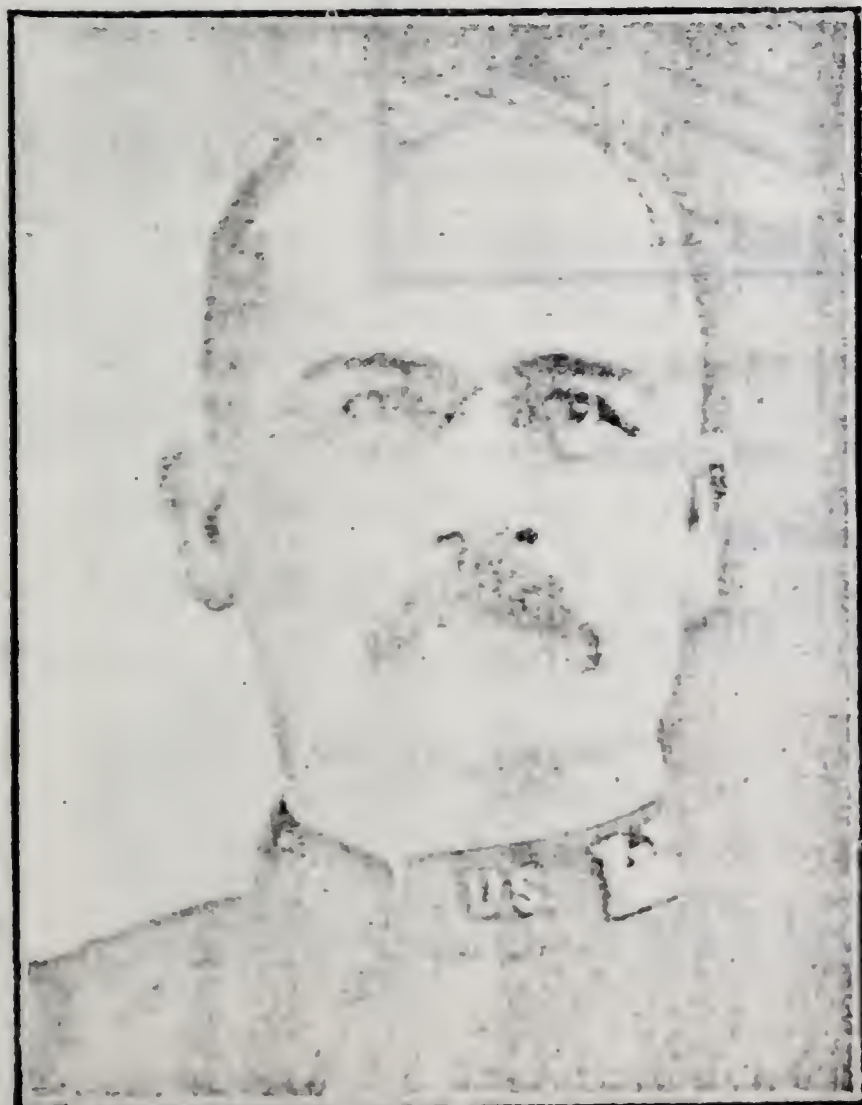
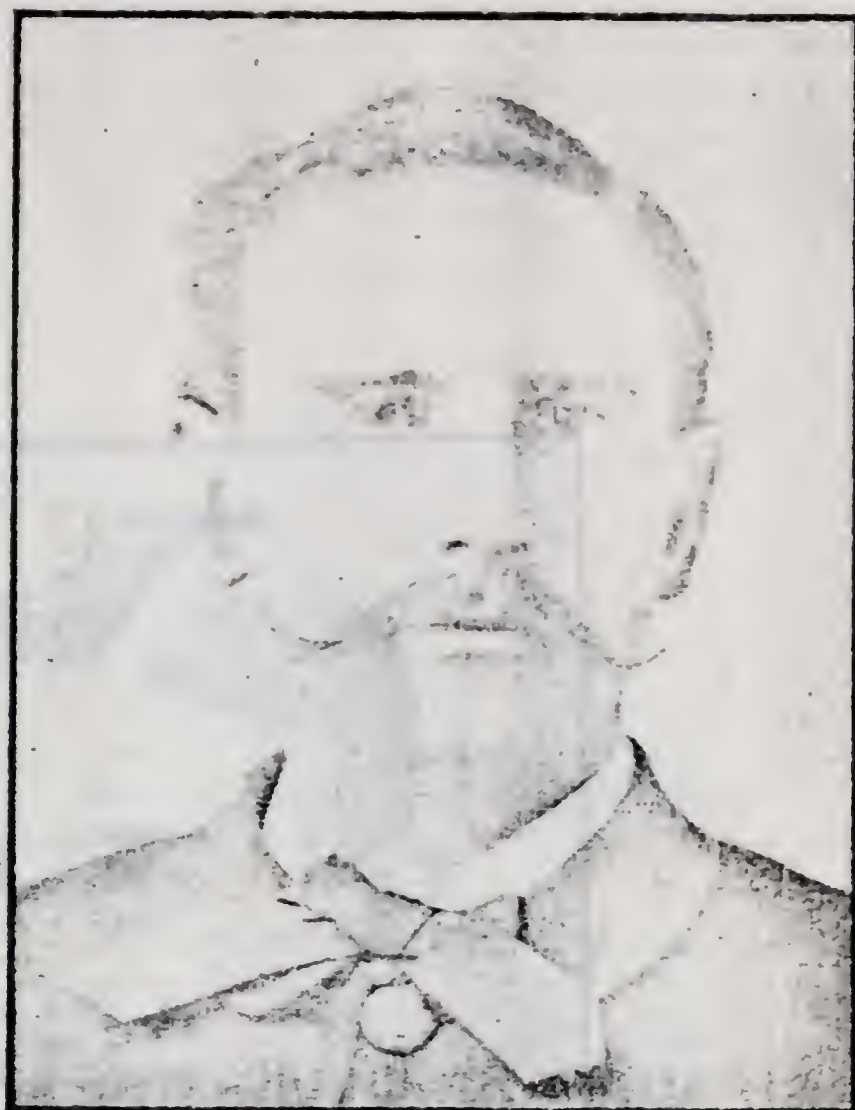


SILAS CASEY

Rear Admiral, U. S. N. Great Grandson of the
first Silas Casey

1ST LIEUTENANT
EDWARD WANTON
CASEY, U. S. A.

Born 1850, Killed in
Action. 1891



COL. THOS. LINCOLN
CASEY, JR.

Corps of Engineers,
U. S. A.

Born 1857, Died 1925



EDWARD PEARCE CASEY
7th Regiment. N. Y. N. G.

Architect

Born 1864



JOHN EDWARD BROWN
JOHN E. BROWN, JR.
1911-1950

THE SECRET OF IMPROVING THE STOCK

Destiny is a convenient word when we try to explain the emergence from relative obscurity of chosen agents of God's Providence, fitted for special tasks at special times. The men we have been describing were neither famous nor great; they were honest, hard-working, faithful and brave. With the next generation, among several brothers and sisters worthy of the family tradition, one appears who combined with the solid qualities of his forebears exceptional intellectual attainments. Wise and happy marriages and unusual mothers have their influence in this enlargement of the personal endowment of members of a given family. The appearance of several individuals of marked ability in the last three generations of the Casey line is easily thus accounted for. When men and women for successive generations marry people of the same neighborhood and stock, there results sometimes a narrowing of vision and deterioration of calibre, a kind of moral inbreeding, if not a physical,—either degeneration or spiritual stagnation.

This does not mean that playmates and neighbors may not make happy and successful marriages, but it means that when a boy manifests genius lacking in his father's line, we may find the explanation in what his mother gave to the making of him.

Some marriages bring variety of ideas and ennoblement of ideals, a broader horizon, an enrichment of the biological and spiritual fibre in a family circle. Undoubtedly this family's history in the second hundred years of its participation in public life shows such an enrichment of the sturdy foundation stock.

A LARGE FAMILY

Wanton Casey, himself an only child, was the father of ten children. One of them, Silas, ultimately won the title of Major General in the United States Army. He entered West Point at the age of 15, the age when his father became a soldier of the Revolution.

THE SECOND SILAS CASEY AND THE WAR OF THE REBELLION

Briefly, after graduation from West Point, he won special praise for courage in the Mexican War, in which he was severely wounded, became author of a work on Military Tactics, which was text book for both armies in the Civil War, and led large bodies of men in major operations in the War. The most notable battle in which



WILLIAM H. HARRIS
JANUARY 1900
HARRIS
1900

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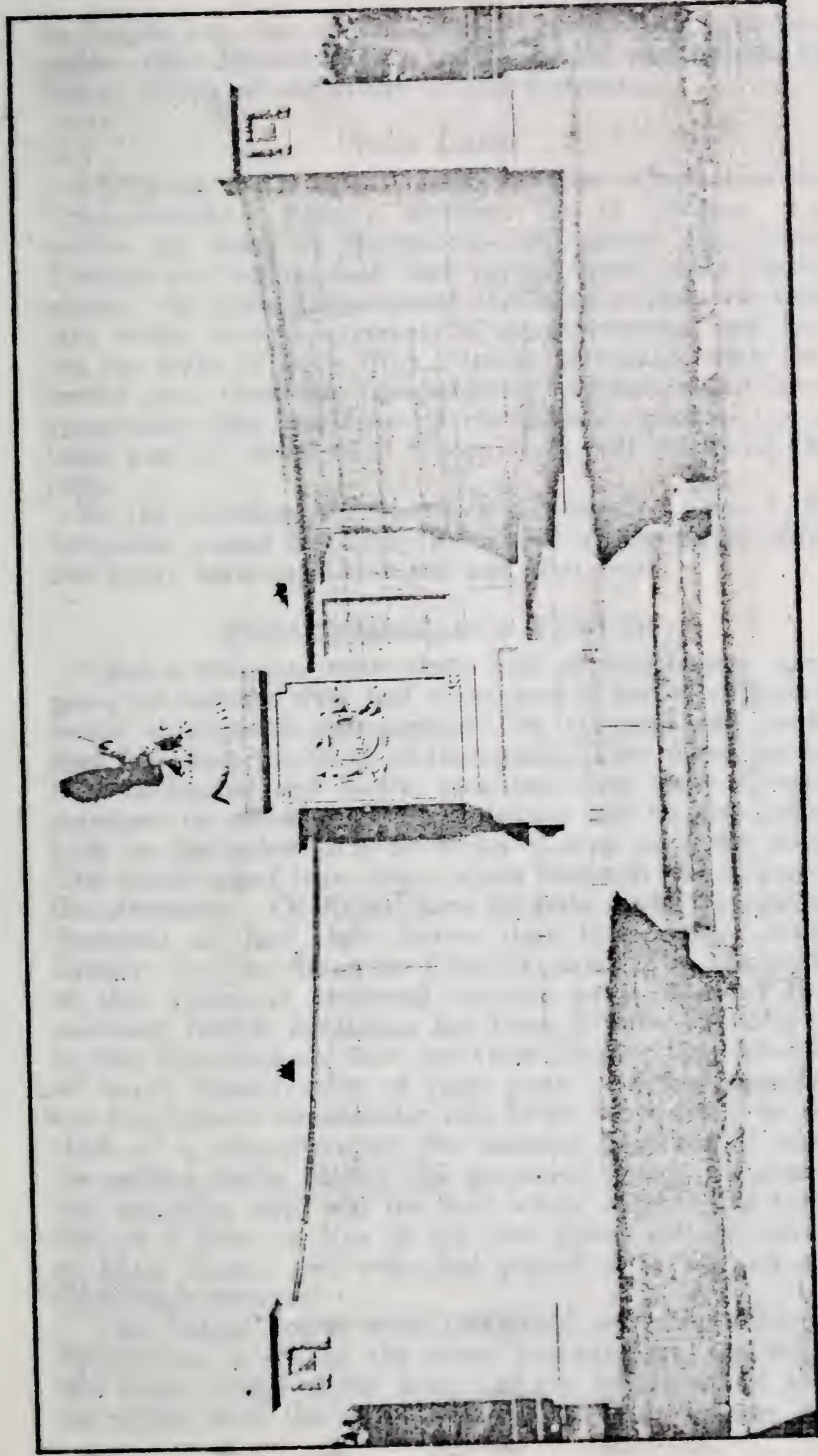
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NEW YORK STATE MONUMENT ON GETTYSBURG BATTLEFIELD
EDWARD PEARCE CASEY, Architect

he fought was that of Fair Oaks or Seven Pines. In that action, May 31 and June 1, 1862. he led one division of Keyes' Corps of the Army of the Potomac.

FAIR OAKS

McClellan had sent that corps and one other across the Chickahominy. Casey's division, far in advance, was within six miles of Richmond—the nearest the Union Troops ever approached that capital until after Appomattox. By some misjudgment McClellan's army was split into widely severed fragments in this movement, and during the night of May 30th a terrific hurricane, with torrential rain, raised the Chickahominy to flood conditions, aggravating the weakness of the Federal position, as a large part of the Federal troops were still north of the river.

In the morning, the Southern commander, Gen. J. E. Johnston, sensed his opportunity and attempted to crush the forces between Richmond and the river.

HORACE GREELEY'S TRIBUTE

Casey's division, more than half of which was composed of recruits who had never seen a battle, surprised, nearly surrounded, outnumbered by seasoned and confident foes, bore the brunt of the attack. They were thrown into confusion and badly punished, but their General managed to maintain some resistance till he had fallen back to the other part of Keyes' Corps near the river. The battle raged from one o'clock through the hours of the afternoon. Of Keyes' nine generals, eight were either wounded or had their horses shot from under them. Greeley, in *The American Conflict*, says, "To the credit of this (Casey's) shattered division be it recorded that enduring fearful enfilading fire from Raines, in addition to that thundered on their rear from Rhodes, they brought off nearly three-fourths of their guns." Before nightfall the Confederate commander fell, badly wounded. In the thick of it all—the mud, the crashing branches of trees, the reeking death, the din, the screaming horses, the shouting, groaning men, was the man whose mother had taken him as a baby to live in the new house on the corner of Main Street, and who had played as a boy on the Greenwich wharves.

The Federal forces were threatened with annihilation. Meanwhile, north of the river, knowing by the nearer and nearer sound of the firing and the movement of rolling smoke how the action was going, Gen. Sumner was

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struggling to bring re-enforcements over. The swollen river had eased the bridges from their supporting piles, and they tilted and shifted when the first infantrymen set foot on them, but as others followed they settled back under the weight, while kneedeep men and hub-deep artillery were hurried over, and the attack was checked by nightfall.

It was resumed the next day, but soon relinquished, and the Confederates withdrew to Richmond. That day, June 1st, Robert E. Lee assumed command of the Army of Northern Virginia and held it till the war was over.

RHODE ISLAND'S TRIBUTE

It is thrilling to realize how worthily East Greenwich was represented in such historic scenes. At the end of the war, Silas Casey was breveted Major General, and twice the Rhode Island General Assembly passed commendatory resolutions for the honor done his native state.

THOMAS LINCOLN CASEY THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT

His son, General Thomas Lincoln Casey, also served throughout the war. He had graduated at the head of his class from West Point, and distinguished himself during the war in fortification construction and other military engineering operations, but his service in the later times of peace brought him higher honor. On him devolved the responsibility of completing the famous shaft which commemorates George Washington in the National Capital City. When he took charge of the latter construction, his proposition that its foundation was too weak incurred the derision of his colleagues. But he persisted, and by excavation succeeded in supplying a larger substructure beneath the old foundations. He also raised the shaft to the height of 555 feet.

THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY HIS ROUNDED PERSONALITY

By act of Congress in 1888, he was named to construct the building for the Library of Congress, the largest library structure in the world, covering three and one-half acres of ground. At his death he held the rank of Brigadier General of Engineers. President Carnot of France created him an Officer of the Legion of Honor. The inscription on the tablet in his son's memory was worded by him and breathes his own fine personality. His written account of the pains taken by his forbears and himself to

secure and preserve intact, to the benefit of posterity, the Coggeshall-Casey homestead near Saunderstown, reveals the public-spirit and tenacity of purpose which underlay the achievements of this family.

THOMAS LINCOLN CASEY, JR.

One of his sons was the last of the line in military service—Thomas Lincoln Casey, Jr., who graduated second in his class from West Point and rose to the rank of Colonel in the Engineers. He was also an astronomer and entomologist of note, and the results of his scientific labors are preserved in exhibits in a room thereto set apart in the National Museum at Washington.

EDWARD PEARCE CASEY ARCHITECTURAL EMINENCE

One son of Gen. Thomas Lincoln and Emma Weir Casey is still living. He is Edward Pearce Casey, architect, of New York. A graduate with the highest honors from the Columbia School of Mines, he ultimately succeeded his father as supervising architect in the construction of the Congressional Library, and to his designs in part is due the beauty of this noble building. The City of Washington is rich in other specimens of his work, among which are the Grant Monument, close to the National Capitol, the Commodore Barry Monument, the Continental Memorial Hall of the D. A. R., the Connecticut Avenue bridge over the Potomac.

Other public and private structures of great merit in many cities—even one in Beirut, Syria, are of his production.

PART OF A LITTLE STATE AND A LITTLE TOWN IN NATIONAL LIFE

Truly one may feel that in the public achievements of this family, not more as fighting men than in the arts of peace, East Greenwich and Rhode Island have been honored, and of these its representatives of the Casey line it may be said, "Their sound is gone out into all the earth."

As we visit the City of Washington, we may take comfort in the thought that their good right arms not only helped to establish it and defend it, but that their intellect and vision have beautified it with handiwork which shall last through the centuries, emblematic of the share in the national life of a little New England town.

* * *

The Casey Farm

on Boston Neck, Saunderstown

An historical sketch, written in 1881 by
Brigadier General Thomas Lincoln Casey

INTRODUCTORY NOTE:

The following historical sketch of the Casey Farm, written by Brigadier General Thomas Lincoln Casey, is appropriately appended to the story of the Casey Family.

The people of Rhode Island, and visitors in the Narragansett Country, should know the story of the Farm, for the latter will ultimately belong in a sense to the public. Mr. Edward Pearce Casey, the present owner, sanctions the publication of his intention to fulfill his father's trust that the place "shall ever be zealously guarded and cherished" by bequeathing it to the New England Society for the Preservation of Colonial Antiquities or some similar organization.

General Casey's narrative is of further interest because it is the unstudied and unconscious self-revelation of family characteristics in the remarkable, dogged, persistence with which for several successive generations—from 1775 to 1869—the Caseys pursued their aim of bringing the ownership of the old place into the single control of one representative of the family; the consideration of kindred for each other's interest; and the filial piety which underlies all patriotism.

C. A. M.

THE ATHERTON LAND PURCHASES IN NARRAGANSETT

THE ATHERTON'S TRACTS

Major Humphrey Atherton and his seven associates purchased two tracts of land in the Narragansett Country, exclusive of the so-called "mortgage lands."

The *first* tract, called the "Quednesett Purchase," lying to the north and north-east of the present Wickford, was bounded on the south-west by the Cocumscussuc or Stony Brook, and was deeded by the Indian Sachems June 11, 1659.

The *second*, called the "Southern Tract" or "Neck Purchase," was deeded July 4, 1659, and extended from the Cocumscussuc Brook on the north-east down between the Pettaquamscutt River and the Sea to the mouth of that River. Namcock Neck, or Boston Neck proper, was only a part of this second purchase and contained but 5330 1/2 acres, measuring from the southern point at the mouth of the Narrow River northward, and was, indeed, less than one-half of the southern tract, even after the lands Richard Smith, Sen., owned about Wickford Harbor and included in the bounds of the first tract, had been deducted.

In 1660, about a year after these purchases, the part of the "Southern Tract" called Namcock, or Boston Neck, was surveyed, the number of acres it contained determined, and it was then agreed to divide and apportion it:—Major Atherton to take the 700 acres at the southern point of the Neck as his share in the entire "Southern Tract"; the others to have each 1/7th part of the remainder of the Neck.

R. I. JURISDICTION ASSERTED

But just at this time the General Assembly of Rhode Island interfered and warned Atherton and his associates that they had acted illegally in their purchase of Rhode Island lands which, doubtless, stopped the actual laying out of the dividing lines of the several shares in the Neck upon the ground.

ORIGINAL OWNERS OF LOTS

On October 30, 1672, the General Assembly of Rhode Island passed an act confirming Atherton and his associates in their land titles, at least to the first and second tracts mentioned above. In the meantime, however, that is from 1660 to 1675, the selling and buying of the *rights* of the several associates to the Namcock lands was

going on. so that when William Whittington, in 1675, made his survey of Namcock Neck only and laid down the boundaries of the several shares on a plot, the Southern one (see page 275, Potter's Narragansett) was set down to Richard Smith because he had bought Atherton's 700 acres July 23, 1673, from his son and administrator, Jonathan Atherton, for £150.

The next two lots were set down to Richard Smith, one in his own and one in his father's right; his father having died in 1667.

The next share was set down to Major John Winthrop, who no doubt represented his father's interest. His father, the Governor of Connecticut, died on April 5, 1676, and probably in 1675 was too ill to attend to the business.

The next was set down to John Saffin, who represented the heirs of Capt. Thomas Willett, who died August 4, 1674, and whose daughter Martha had married John Saffin. Capt. Thomas Willett must have obtained this share from John Tinker of Nashaway.

The next share was set down to James Brown and John Payne who must, therefore, have been the owners of this share in 1675, and probably obtained it of Amos Richardson at or prior to this date.

The next two tracts were still in possession of Capt. William Hudson and Capt. Edward Hutchinson, two of the original associates.

This was the state of affairs in 1675 when the Indian War broke out, and the division of the remaining or northern portion of the "Neck Purchase," covering 6105 acres, was put off and not undertaken until April, 1685, when a survey of the lands north of Namcock Neck was made by Mr. John Gore, and it was divided up among the "claimers" and proprietors as per the agreement of April 23, 1685, and the quantities represented on page 274 of Potter's Narragansett.

ORIGINAL OWNERS, July 4th, 1659.

This Division was made in 1660.

Capt. Edward Hutchison.....	661 1/2 Acres..	Hamilton
Capt. William Hudson.....	661 1/2 Acres..	Plum Beach
Amos Richardson.....	661 1/2 Acres..	Casey Point
John Tinker.....	661 1/2 Acres..	
Gov. John Winthrop of Conn....	661 1/2 Acres..	South Ferry
Richard Smith, Jr.....	661 1/2 Acres..	Bonnet Point
Richard Smith, Sr.....	661 1/2 Acres..	
Maj. Humphrey Atherton.....	700 Acres..	Mouth of Narrow River

* John Paine had an interest in the Narragansett lands as early as March, 1666 (See Vol. 11, R. I. C. R., page 140); also an inhabitant in May, 1668 (See Vol. 11, R. I. C. R., page 227); but Amos Richardson also seemed to be there at same time; also, John Payne in October, 1668 (See Vol. 11, R. I. C. R., p. 231).

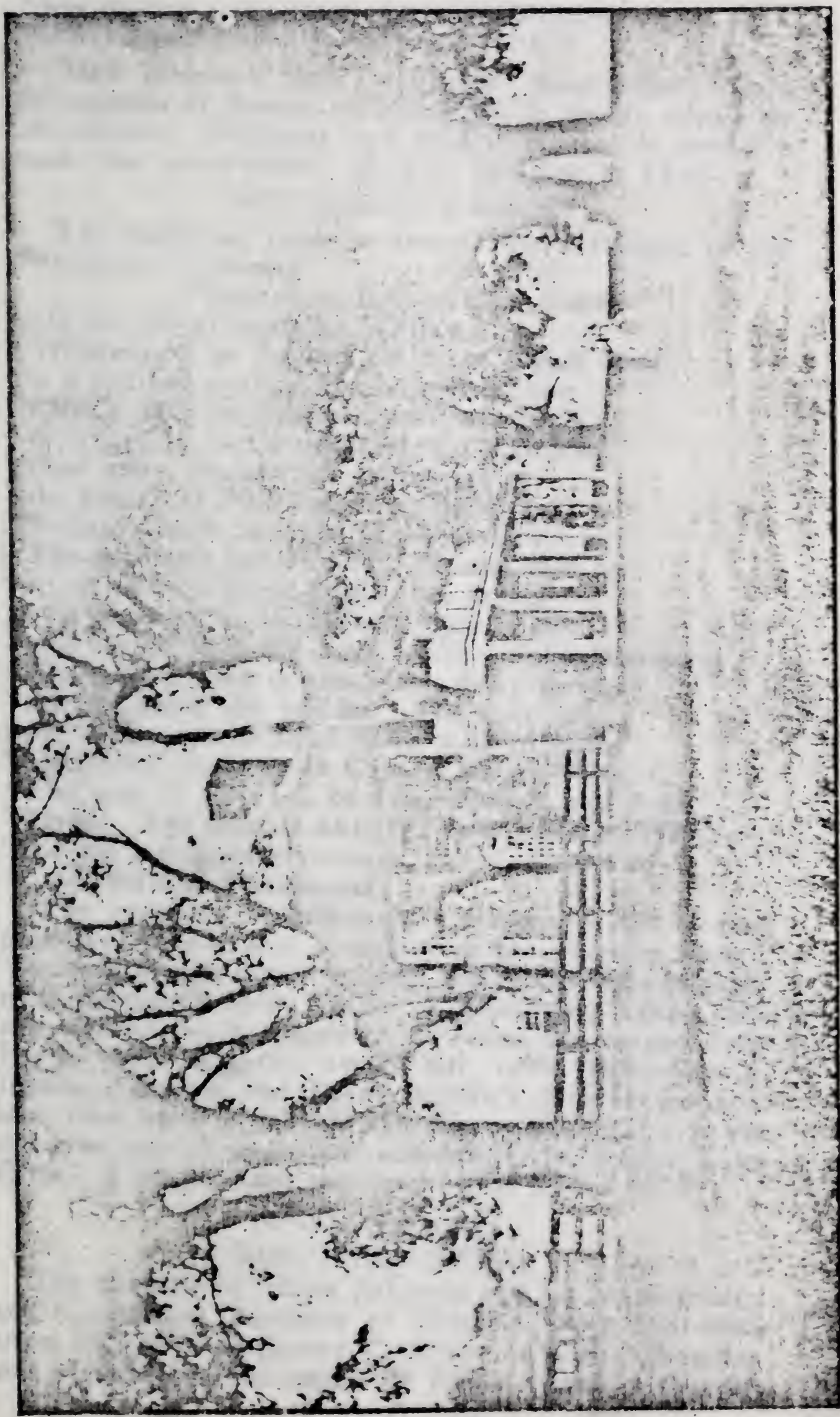
HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE CASEY FARM

BOSTON NECK

The tract of land in the Narragansett Country (formerly Kings Province) in Rhode Island, now called "Boston Neck," was styled by the Indians "Namcock Neck," and the following ancient record furnishes an account of its purchase:—

"At a meeting of the claimers or
"proprietors of the Southern Tract com-
"monly called the Neck purchase, at
"the house of Richard Smith at Narragansett,
"April 23, 1685, it was agreed as followeth:—

"Whereas John Winthrop, Esq., late
"Governor of Connecticut, Maj. Humphrey
"Atherton of Mass., Richard Smith, Sen'r.,
"Richard Smith, Jr., of Cocomscussuc,
"William Hudson and Amos Richeson
"of Boston and John Tinker of Nashaway,
"trader, purchased of Coquinaquand,
"Sachem of Narragansett, a tract or parcel
"of land in the Narragansett Country as by
"deed dated July 4, 1659, being bounded
"by Cocumscussock brook on the north
"east, from thence running on a west
"line, until the pond lying at the head
"of Matutuxet or Pettaquamscot River,
"which pond is called Pansacaco pond,
"bears from thence south-east, on the
"south-west bounded by Mattutuxet
"River to the sea, and bounded by the
"Sea or water on the south-east, the
"abovesaid purchasers admitted Capt.
"Edward Hutchinson, late of Boston, an
"equal sharer or purchaser with them
"in said grant or tract of land as
"appears from their record: Namcock
"Neck being part of said grant was
"surveyed about twenty-five years since
"and agreed to be divided into eight shares:
"viz.: seven hundred acres at the lower end
"of said Neck next the Sea unto Major
"Atherton, which he accepted of as his full
"share in said whole tract of land boun-
"ded as above said. And the rest of said
"Neck to be divided into seven equal
"shares unto the above proprietors (Maj.
"Atherton only excepted) which said Neck



THE CASPARY FARM HOUSE ON BOSTON NECK, NEAR SAUNDERSTOWN, R. I.



"was divided as by platt under Mr. William
"Whittington's hand in the year 1675."

This "Namcock Neck" was called "Boston Neck" from the number of Boston or Massachusetts people who were the original purchasers and holders of it. It probably took that name shortly after its purchase in 1659.

WHITTINGTON'S SURVEY

The following paper is from Potter's History of the Narragansett Country:

"Nancock or Boston Neck Sands"

"On the survey made by William
"Whittington in August, 1675, of which there
"is a certified copy in the Supreme Court
"Clerk's office in Newport, and one much
"mutilated in the Washington Co. Common
"Pleas office, the first lot (beginning at
"the point) of 700 acres is set down to
"Richard Smith in right of Maj. Atherton.
"The two next lots of 661 1/2 acres each are
"set down to Richard Smith, one in his
"own and one in his father's right. The
"next lot of 661 1/2 acres to Maj. John Winthrop.
"The present road to the South Ferry divides
"this lot about the middle. The next lot
"661 1/2 acres to John Saffin who probably
"represented the heirs of Capt. Thomas Willet.
"The next of 661 1/2 to James Brown and John
"Payne. The next of 661 1/2 acres to Capt. Hudson
"and the last northerly one of 661 1/2 acres to
"Capt. Edward Hutchinson."

The northern boundary of Winthrop's lot is now probably the northern boundary of the "Collins Farm." The next lot, set down to John Saffin, was the one originally owned by John Tinker of Nashaway, Trader, and the next lot north, set down to James Brown and John Payne, was originally owned by Amos Richardson of Boston. Brown and Payne probably divided the tract into two tracts of about 330 acres each, and it is the southern one of these that constitutes the present Casey Farm. They obtained this tract by or before 1675.

RIVAL COLONIES

KING PHILIP'S WAR

The purchase by Major Atherton and his Massachusetts and Connecticut associates of Namcock Neck and other tracts in the Narragansett Country, or Kings Province, was regarded by the people of Rhode Island with great

solicitude. The Narragansett Country, or Kings Province so called, was all that portion of the present State of Rhode Island south of the Warwick Line, and claims had been set up to it by both Massachusetts and Connecticut Colonies. Connecticut, however, urged her claim with the greatest energy, and expeditions supported by armed men were sent in succession by both Connecticut and Rhode Island to obtain the submission of the people to their respective governments, and to establish magistrates loyal to them. These disputes were continually arising during the period from 1649 to 1703, and it was difficult for the people who had settled in that region to tell under which government they would finally fall, or whether the title to their lands would be respected by the successful claimant to jurisdiction. The effect of this disorder and the Indian War of 1675 prevented any very extended settlement or improvement of the lands until after the close of the War. The purchase of Major Ather-ton and his associates was taken into consideration by the General Assembly of Rhode Island in August of 1659, but it was not until the 30th of October of 1672 that the Assembly confirmed their purchase of them. Then came on the Indian War of 1675, the great battle with the Narragansett Tribe being fought on the 19th of December of that year, and the country being almost depopulated of whites, the settlers fleeing for their lives to the Island of Rhode Island. As soon, however, as hostilities had ceased in 1676, and for some time after settlers began to return and it is stated in 1698 that "there were many intruders upon the lands in the Narragansett Country."

1702--CASEY INTEREST IN BOSTON NECK FARM ORIGINATES

It was, therefore, upon the thirtieth day of March in 1702 that the Farm in Boston Neck was purchased by my G. G. G. G. Grandfather, Joseph Mory of Jamestown on Conanicut Island. His brother, Benjamin Mory of Wickford, had been a resident of that place as early as 1674, before the War, and both he and his elder brother, Joseph, were among the incorporators of East Greenwich in 1677. Joseph Mory of Narragansett was made a freeman of the Colony in 1673.

QUAKER ANCESTRY OF WANTON CASEY THE BURYING GROUND ON THE OLD FARM PRESENT HOUSE BUILT 1740-50

THE OLD ENGLAND TRANSPLANTED TO THE NEW

On the 12th of May, 1703, the final agreement as to

the boundary between Rhode Island and Connecticut was signed at Stonington, by which agreement Rhode Island retained the government of the Narragansett Country. On the 5th of January, 1705/6, Joseph Mory, by formal deed of gift, conveyed to Mary Mory, his daughter, and the wife of Daniel Coggeshall, Esq., the farm for her life and then to her son Daniel. In the description of the land in this deed, it is bounded "northerly by one half share of Amos Richardson deceased, now in ye possession of Stephen and Joseph Northrup, and southerly by the lands of Capt. Andrew Willett." Daniel Coggeshall, Esq., the husband of Mary Mory, son of Joshua Coggeshall and Joan West, his first wife, and grandson of John Coggeshall, Governor and Signer of the original compact at Portsmouth, was a Quaker and had married Mary Mory, only child of Joseph Mory, then of Jamestown, at which place Daniel Coggeshall had resided for a few years prior to 1705, being originally from Portsmouth. From the Colonial Records, it appears he was a warden of Jamestown in 1704 and the same year was a representative in the General Assembly from Jamestown. He no doubt moved over to Kingstown and occupied an estate in that town in 1705 or 6, and may have resided on the farm before his death, which occurred May 17, 1717. The farm was in possession of a tenant, one William Smith, in May, 1716. As a confirmation that he resided in Kingstown subsequent to 1705, there appears in the Kingstown Records an entry of the birth of a daughter in 1706 and of a son in 1708, and there is also the record of a deed made in 1711, in which Daniel Coggeshall and Mary his wife sold in Boston Neck 230 acres of land to David Green for £600. This Daniel Coggeshall was my G. G. Grandfather. Before the death of his widow, she conveyed her life estate in the farm by deed* to her son, Daniel Coggeshall, who was born August, 1704. He was a Quaker also, and married, July 7, 1726, Mary Wanton of Scituate, Massachusetts, the daughter of the celebrated Quaker preacher, Michael Wanton of that town, who was a son of Edward Wanton. This Daniel Coggeshall, my G. G. Grandfather, undoubtedly resided on the farm, and his wife and mother are possibly buried in some of the graves without headstones in the burying grounds. One of his daughters, Mary, a girl of eighteen years, is buried in these grounds, and a headstone is erected to her memory. The date of her death was March 11, 1747. Daniel Coggeshall, Esq., occupied many promi-

* This deed of Mary Coggeshall was dated August 14th, 1724 (Kingstown Records).

ment positions in his town, and was repeatedly a member of the General Assembly and of the Council, as Assistant of the Colony. The mansion house now standing on the farm was undoubtedly built by him, probably between the years 1740 and 1750. This was the second mansion-house that had been built on the estate, the first one having stood in the north-east corner of what is now the kitchen garden, and very probably erected as early as 1662 or 1676. The old well of that house is still in existence in the western edge of the garden lot and the foundations of this house have been traced in recent years. During the life of Daniel Coggeshall, and even down to the beginning of the present century, Boston Neck was the garden spot of Rhode Island, the occupants of the several estates in the Neck were gentlemen of wealth and culture and lived in all the comfort and elegance of English country houses. Traces of hedges, which in those days and even later marked the boundaries of many of the lots of the farm, are still to be seen in some parts of what is now called the East Orchard. Daniel Coggeshall, Esq., died in East Greenwich November 24, 1775, where for six years certainly, prior to his death, he had resided in one of the houses of his son-in-law, Silas Casey, my G. Grandfather. On the 30th of April, 1773, Daniel Coggeshall mortgaged 195 3/4 acres of the farm, being a little more than the southern half to Benjamin Gardiner for \$3,161.00, to be paid by 25th of March, 1774.*

As he failed to pay the mortgage when due, the mortgaged part of the farm was taken possession of by Benjamin Gardiner, who occupied it from March, 1774, until March, 1783, per the interest on the money loaned. He then gave it up, and instituted proceedings to extinguish the right of redemption, and by a decree of the Superior Court, dated April, 1785, it was ordered: that the amount of the mortgage must be paid, principal and interest, by September 25, 1787; otherwise, the equity of redemption would be lost. This decree was in accordance with a petition of the heirs.†

* This Benjamin Gardiner was a son-in-law of John and Mary Howland, having married their daughter Mary. He was of Portsmouth, R. I.

General Assembly at Providence 1 Monday in February, 1777, ordered Benjamin Gardiner, who lately came from Rhode Island, to move to Exeter and confine himself to that town, to move at his own expense, and not to leave without express permission.

† It was in 1777 that a Company of men commanded by Lieut. Stephen Wightman, were surrounded in the mansion-house by the Marines of a British Frigate, and with difficulty escaped. One, Elisha Reynolds of Exeter, was wounded by a musket ball, in the left arm. (See Vol. X R. I. Colonial Records, page 456). Arnold's History of R. I. gives Aug. 5, 1777, for this raid.

HERE BEGINS A CENTURY'S TASK FOR THE FAMILY

Daniel Coggeshall, Esq., died without a will, leaving the following heirs, who were entitled under the laws of Rhode Island to the following shares of the farm:

Joseph Coggeshall, eldest son.....	1/4
Mary Coggeshall, who was married to John Howland.....	1/8
Abigail Coggeshall, who was married to Silas Casey.....	1/8
Hannah Coggeshall, widow of Benjamin Sheffield.....	1/8
Waite Coggeshall, who was married to James Gardiner.....	1/8
Daniel Coggeshall.....	1/8
Mary Fry } Children of deceased daughter, Luciana, who	1/16
} married Capt. Samuel Fry.	1/8
Daniel Fry }	1/16

BRITISH RAIDS

AN HISTORIC BULLET MARK

The mortgage on the estate, held by Benjamin Gardiner for £900, was by March 25, 1783, by payments of Silas Casey, Joseph Coggeshall, and John Howland, reduced to \$3,000. The death of Daniel Coggeshall occurring just after the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, everything being in confusion in the Colony, and the farm lying open to incursions of the enemy from off his cruisers, no steps were then taken to redeem the estate, take it out of Benjamin Gardiner's hands and divide it among the heirs, but on the 22nd of February, 1781, action for a division was commenced. Up to this time the interests of the estate seem to have been managed by Joseph Coggeshall and Silas Casey, the former for a portion of this time being in local charge and probably acting as well for Gardiner as for the heirs. During this time the farm was leased by Joseph Coggeshall to one, William Browning, who was also tenant from 1782 to 1784. Early in December, 1776 (Dec. 8), the British landed 7,000 men in Newport and took possession of the Islands of Rhode Island and Conanicut, and continued this occupation until October 27, 1779, when they evacuated the Colony and went to New York City. During this period of occupation repeated excursions were made to the shores of main land on either side of these islands, by parties from the main body in Newport, and from the vessels of war in the channels. Companies of rangers and scouts, militia and alarm, and independent companies were organized by the patriots to patrol the shores, and one such company had the Boston Neck and Point Judith Country assigned to it to guard. On one occasion a portion of this company had taken up its quarters for the night in the present mansion-house of the farm, when word was carried to the Commander of the

British vessel blockading the West Channel (said to have been the Frigate Vulture) by his spies, and he landed a party of marines to attack the patriots. The larger part of those warriors, however, made good their escape. one man having been shot through the arm* while fleeing across the yard. There is a tradition that another man tried to hide himself in a recess in the big chimney, which is approached by a door opening on the front stair-case, but fell from this position to the cellar. It is probable that a number were made prisoners. The marines fairly riddled the house with bullets, firing through the windows, the doors, and under the doors, and to this day the marks of their attack can be seen. In firing under the doors the balls cut grooves in the flooring boards, which boards have since been removed, and most of the holes in the doors have been closed with small patches. One hole, however, in the parlor door, has been left as a memento of the assault.

DIFFICULTIES

In 1781 Silas Casey seems to have come into the sole charge of the still undivided estate, he then residing in the Warwick part of East Greenwich, and from March, 1782, to March, 1786, leased from Benjamin Gardiner the mortgaged part of his possessions, paying him from 180 to 129 dollars a year rent. On the 25th day of March, 1787, Silas Casey took up his permanent residence

* In October, 1791, Elisha Reynolds, late of Exeter in the County of Washington, laborer, but now of the State of Vermont, petitioned the General Assembly, representing that he was on duty under Lieut. Stephen Wightman in the year 1777, at the house of Mr. Benjamin Gardiner, which was surrounded by the enemy. That in forcing his way through he was grievously wounded by a musket ball in the left arm, and prayed to be enrolled as an invalid. (Vol. X, Col. Records, p. 456.)

In the General Assembly held June, 1776, in Newport, the following officers were elected to the First Company of Militia in the town of Exeter: Capt. Jonathan Bates, Lieut. Stephen Wightman, Ensign Henry Reynolds.

In the General Assembly, fourth Monday in March, 1777, one-half of the force of Militia and Alarm Companies is ordered to march to the shores by April 6, and to remain on duty fifteen days, while the 2nd outfit is ordered to report on the shores by April 24 for its tour of duty.

In the General Assembly in S. Kingstown, May 19, 1777, speaks of persons lately taken from N. Kingstown by the enemy and permit a flag of truce to go to Newport to carry them clothing and money, they being confined in jail in Newport.

In General Assembly, Aug., 1777, the persons appointed in Exeter to recruit men for the Continental Battalions were Mr. Stephen Wightman and Captain Samuel Groton.

From the above, it would seem the attack on the farm was made the latter part of April or first part of May, 1777. (Arnold's Hist. R. I. gives Aug. 5, 1777, and British force 200.)

upon the farm, having discharged the mortgage of Benjamin Gardiner August 19, 1786, paying to the several heirs a rental for the portions owned by them. From this time forward, and for some years preceding, there seems to have been a rivalry on the part of Silas Casey and John Howland in buying up the several shares of the estate. On the 22nd of March, 1782, James Gardiner and Waite, his wife, sold to Silas Casey for 875 milled dollars the $\frac{1}{8}$ part or right of said Waite. On the 19th of August, 1784, Joseph Coggeshall mortgaged to Silas Casey of Warwick his $\frac{1}{4}$ part of the farm to secure a loan of £230 lawful silver money, the loan being until the 25th of March, 1785. On the 8th of October, 1785, he gave another mortgage for £69-6s-6d due 25 March, 1786. Neither of these loans were paid when due, and the lands went into the possession of Silas Casey. On the 16th of February, 1785, Daniel Coggeshall and Elizabeth, his wife, sold his $\frac{1}{8}$ part of the farm to Silas Casey for £137-5s-Od. On the 8 of July, 1786, Hannah Sheffield, for the consideration of 457 $\frac{1}{2}$ Spanish silver milled dollars conveyed by deed to Silas Casey of Warwick her rights to $\frac{1}{8}$ part of the farm in possession of said Silas Casey, and all her rights in $\frac{1}{8}$ of Dutch Island rights.

DUTCH ISLAND

It is not very clear what the Dutch Island rights that have belonged to the farm were. They consisted, probably, of the rights purchased of Hannah Sheffield by Silas Casey as per deed of July 8, 1786, and coming to her from her husband, and also the rights purchased of John Howland as per deed of June 20, 1798, amounting to 2 acres 129 rods, and which he had purchased of Joseph Coggeshall. In the abstract of the title to Dutch Island, made out for the United States when they bought this Island for purposes of fortification, is the following:

"THE CASEY RIGHTS"

"Silas Casey owned the Rodman Farm right
"and the Widow Sheffield right before 1800. Wanton
"Casey, son of Silas, inherited it and devised it
"to Thomas G. Casey, brother of General Casey. On
"the 8 of December, 1851, for the consideration of
"\$171 95/100 Thos. G. Casey sold to Powell T. Carpenter
"Dutch Island, Narragansett Bay, State of R. I.
"to wit, The Rodman Farm right not transferred
"as it appears by record in 1792, as then stated

“by a committee to contain two and one half
“acres: the Widow Sheffield right belonging
“to her heirs in 1792 as then stated by a committee
“to contain two acres and one quarter and twenty
“six rods, more or less. The above taken from
“a memorandum furnished by the party of
“the second part.

The will of Wanton Casey, recorded in the Clerk's office of the Probate Court in East Greenwich, Book No. 7, pages 520-21-22-23, states:

“And I also give and devise to him, my said
“son, Thomas G. Casey, his heirs and assigns
“forever, five acres and a quarter of an acre
“of said land lying and being on Dutch
“Island so called, be the same more or less.”

By the close of the year 1786, with what he had purchased and his wife's $\frac{1}{8}$ part, Silas Casey owned $\frac{1}{2}$ of the farm, still undivided among the heirs of Daniel Coggeshall, Esq.; the other owners in fee being: Joseph Coggeshall, $\frac{1}{4}$ part; John Howland, $\frac{1}{8}$; and Daniel and Mary Fry, $\frac{1}{8}$ part.

On the 24th of February, 1787, Silas Casey, in consideration of 1275 Spanish silver milled dollars, sold to his father, Thomas Casey, Esq., of East Greenwich, one equal half part of a certain farm undivided, situated in North Kingstown in Boston Neck, being the present Casey Farm, and then in possession of said Silas Casey.

A COMPLICATED GAME

The partition of the lands of the farm by a commission to the several heirs was probably made in the latter part of 1788, and by a decree of the Court of Equity in which Joseph Coggeshall had filed a bill, and under date of October 29, 1788, he, Coggeshall, recovered from the possession of Silas Casey his $\frac{1}{4}$ part of the estate by the payment to Silas Casey of £491-6s-6d. On the 10th of December, 1788, Daniel Fry of East Greenwich, in consideration of £126 lawful money, granted to Silas Casey a certain parcel of land in possession of Silas Casey, containing 35 acres, it being the land he drew in partnership with his sister, Mary Fry, bounded southerly on land belonging to heirs of Frances Carpenter, westerly on land in possession of Silas Casey, northerly on land belonging to John Congdon, Esq., and easterly partly on land in possession of Silas Casey and partly on land belonging to John Howland.

After this deed, Thomas Casey, Esq., owned $\frac{1}{2}$ of

the farm, Joseph Coggeshall $1/4$, John Howland $1/8$, Silas Casey $1/16$, and Mary Fry $1/16$.

On March 10, 1789, Joseph Coggeshall and Elizabeth, his wife, of North Kingstown, sold to John Howland of Jamestown, in consideration of 1600 good Spanish milled dollars, 110 acres of land in the farm bounded as follows: northerly on land of John Congdon, westerly on Pettaquamscott Pond, southerly on land belonging to the heirs of Frances Carpenter, and easterly on land in possession of Silas Casey belonging to Thomas Casey, together with one right or share of land on Dutch Island containing 2 acres, 129 rods.

After this deed, Thomas Casey owned $1/2$ of the farm, John Howland $3/8$, Silas Casey $1/16$, and Mary Fry $1/16$.

On the 7th of January, 1792, Thomas Casey leased all his lands in North Kingstown to Silas and Abigail Casey and Wanton Casey for their natural lives, the rent being one dollar paid annually to him or his daughter, Elizabeth Freeborn, and all taxes.

On the 26th of August, 1796, John Howland, in consideration of a note of £130-12s-2 $1/2$ d, given by Silas Casey, agreed to give him a deed of the land in the farm owned by said John Howland, as soon as said note is paid.

On the 20th of April, 1797, Thomas Casey, Esq., my G. G. Grandfather died, and by his will gave to his daughter, Elizabeth Freeborn, all the lands he is seized of in North Kingstown in Boston Neck, being part of the farm, for her natural life, and after her decease all his lands in East Greenwich and North Kingstown to go to the oldest son of Wanton Casey, to be and to remain unto him, his heirs and assigns forever.

On the 20th of June, John Howland and Mary, his wife, sold to Silas Casey, in consideration of 1600 good Spanish milled dollars, 110 acres of land in North Kingstown bounded as follows: northerly on land of Stephen Congdon, westerly on Pettaquamscott, southerly on land belonging to the heirs of Frances Carpenter, deceased, and easterly on land in possession of Silas Casey belonging to the heirs of Thomas Casey, deceased, together with one share of land in Dutch Island containing 2 acres, 129 rods, being undivided, being the lands bought of Joseph Coggeshall.

The farm then belonged $1/2$ to Elizabeth Freeborn for her life, $1/8$ to John Howland, $5/16$ to Silas Casey, and $1/16$ to Mary Fry.

On the 14th of September, 1807, Mary Fry sold to

Silas Casey, in consideration of \$400, $\frac{1}{16}$ part of the farm formerly belonging to her honored Grandfather, Daniel Coggeshall, Esq., as divided by commissioners, it being $\frac{1}{2}$ of $\frac{1}{8}$ of said farm which was set off to her late brother, Daniel Fry, bounded as follows: on the north by lands formerly belonging to John Congdon, on the east and west by lands belonging to Silas Casey, and on the south by what is called the Willett Farm, known by the name of the Swamp Meadow, and so far westward and northward as to make up the said eighth part.

After this sale, the farm belonged $\frac{1}{2}$ to Elizabeth Freeborn for her life, $\frac{1}{8}$ to John Howland, and $\frac{3}{8}$ to Silas Casey.

On the 7th of October, 1810, Elizabeth Freeborn died and by the terms of the will of Thomas Casey, Esq., her life estate in the farm passed to the eldest son of Wanton Casey, Thomas Goodale Casey, a boy then some fourteen years of age.

On the 27th of September, 1814, Silas Casey, Esq., died, and his property in the farm passed to his only child and heir, Wanton Casey, my Grandfather.

The farm was then owned as follows: $\frac{1}{2}$ by Thos. G. Casey, a minor, $\frac{1}{8}$ by Mary Howland, and $\frac{3}{8}$ by Wanton Casey.

On the 25th of March, 1816, Mary Howland deeded to Wanton Casey her $\frac{1}{8}$ part of the farm in consideration of one thousand dollars. to be paid for the same, and the same date Wanton Casey gave to Mary Howland a mortgage on 110 acres of the farm bounded on the north by land belonging to the heirs of Stephen Congdon, deceased, westerly on Pettaquamscott, southerly on lands belonging to Willett Carpenter or in his possession, and easterly on lands belonging to Wanton Casey, to secure a note of \$1000 with lawful interest payable annually, which was the purchase money of the $\frac{1}{8}$ part of the farm noted above.

The farm was then owned $\frac{1}{2}$ by Thomas G. Casey, and one half by Wanton Casey, his father.

The note mentioned above was paid, and the mortgage deed cancelled by Thomas G. Casey during the lifetime of his father; namely, on the 27th of August, 1839.

On the 20th of August, 1820, Frances Carpenter gave to Wanton Casey a quit claim deed for 10 acres of land situated in North Kingstown, bounded southerly on land in the occupation of Willett Carpenter, westerly on land leased to George W. Watson, and easterly and northerly on land of the aforesaid Wanton Casey, being the same

premises heretofore leased to said Carpenter by Silas Casey, deceased.

On the 15th of September, 1825, Thomas G. Casey sold to his father, Wanton Casey, $\frac{3}{8}$ of the farm, being a portion of what was devised to him by his G. Grandfather, Thomas Casey, Esq.

The farm was then owned $\frac{7}{8}$ by Wanton Casey, and $\frac{1}{8}$ by Thomas G. Casey, his son.

END OF THE FIRST CAMPAIGN FOR OWNERSHIP

Wanton Casey, Esq., died the 17th of December, 1842, when his $\frac{7}{8}$ of the farm passed by will to Thomas G. Casey, his eldest son, who united in his person the ownership of the whole estate, the fee simple having been for sixty-eight years in the possession of different parties.

Thomas G. Casey was never married, and held possession of the estate—except the Dutch Island rights, which he sold December 8, 1851, to Powell T. Carpenter for the sum of \$171 $\frac{95}{100}$ —until the date of his death on the 22nd of May, 1855. He died in Brooklyn, N. Y., and had a short time previous to his decease written with his own hand his will, which he had caused to be witnessed by only two witnesses, fulfilling all the requirements of the laws of the State of New York, and supposing this to be sufficient to convey his real and personal estate wherever it might be located. This will was good for the State of New York, but was not sufficient in the opinion of the ablest lawyers in Rhode Island to convey realty in that State. So the will was never carried into the State of Rhode Island for probate. The following is the language of this will with reference to the farm.

"I give and bequeath to Thomas Lincoln Casey,
"my nephew, the land and appurtenances situated
"thereon, known and described as the Coggeshall or
"Casey Farm, lying in the town of North Kingstown,
"County of Washington, State of Rhode Island, containing
"three hundred and thirty acres, more or less, on
"condition that my sisters, Eliza, Mary and Louisa,
"or either of them, be allowed as they may
"choose, to stay at the mansion-house on the farm
"during the summer and autumn, free of
"cost for board—including also, *if convenient*,
"my nieces, Elizabeth G. and Abby S. Briggs,
"and my brother-in-law, Charles Briggs, and
"my nieces, Abby P. and Elizabeth G. Casey."

ALL IN VAIN

As there was no will governing the disposal of this

property, in the State of Rhode Island, the farm was in the same condition as if the owner had died intestate, and descended to the heirs-at-law of Thomas G. Casey. These were as follows:—

Sister, Eliza, married to Rev. Charles Briggs.....	1/7
{ Nathaniel Greene.....	1/35
Heirs of Christopher Greene:	
{ Abby S. Greene	
{ Christopher W. C. Greene	
{ Eliza C. Greene	1/35
{ William C. Greene	
Heirs of Sister, Abby S. Greene.....	1/7
Thomas Casey Greene.....	1/35
Charles Collins Greene.....	1/35
William Maxwell Greene.....	1/35
Sister, Mary.	1/7
Sister, Louisa.	1/7
Brother, John Wanton.....	1/7
Brother, Silas.	1/7
Brother, Edwin Augustus.....	1/7

THE NEW CAMPAIGN BEGINS

Some of these heirs were opposed to the division of the estate into sevenths, or of its sale out of the family, regarding it as an heir-loom, which ought to be preserved, while others cared nothing for this sentiment, looking upon the farm simply as a piece of property, of which they owned a share, and in this view they were sustained by the law. There was not one of the heirs who was willing to buy up the rights of the others and, while some were much offended because the testator wished to put the estate in my charge, it was finally left to me to obtain the title, the best way possible.

Some of the heirs were willing to give me quit claim deeds for their shares, and so the task of endeavoring to unite the place again under one title was undertaken with many misgivings on my part. It should be premised that as soon as Nathaniel Greene, whose share was 1/35, heard of the disposition that, under the laws of the State, must be made of the farm, he at once sold his share to Edward H. Eldredge of Boston for the sum of \$500., and the deed was recorded in North Kingstown. For the purposes of the division, the farm was appraised by disinterested parties in the summer of 1855, and valued at \$10,500., making each share, or one seventh, \$1500.

The first deed given to Thomas L. Casey was that of John W. Casey and Elizabeth M. Casey, his wife, the consideration being one dollar. It was dated July 20, 1855, and was a quit claim to all right and title. Next, the deed of Mary and Louisa Casey, in form of a cove-

The first part of the paper is devoted to a general discussion of the problem of the existence of solutions of the system of equations (1) for arbitrary values of the parameters α and β . It is shown that the system (1) has solutions for arbitrary values of the parameters α and β if and only if the conditions (2) are satisfied. The second part of the paper is devoted to the study of the properties of the solutions of the system (1) for arbitrary values of the parameters α and β . It is shown that the solutions of the system (1) are unique and depend continuously on the parameters α and β . The third part of the paper is devoted to the study of the properties of the solutions of the system (1) for arbitrary values of the parameters α and β . It is shown that the solutions of the system (1) are unique and depend continuously on the parameters α and β .

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nant or indenture in two parts, and dated August 1, 1855, the consideration being as follows:

"To furnish proper and suitable board
"to Mary and Louisa Casey, or either of them,
"in the Mansion-House on the farm for
"and during the summer and autumn
"months of each and every year during the
"respective lives of said Mary and Louisa,
"such board to be at no cost or expense to
"said Mary or Louisa, or either of them."

A HAPPY FAMILY

The next deed or indenture in two parts was that from Charles and Eliza Briggs, dated August 2, 1855, the consideration being as follows:

"To furnish proper and suitable board to Eliza
"Briggs in the Mansion-House on the farm for and
"during the summer and autumn months of each
"and every year during the life of said Eliza.
"such board to be at no cost or expense to the
"said Eliza, and to furnish, grant, permit, and
"allow to the said Eliza Briggs and to Charles
"Briggs and to Elizabeth G. Briggs and Abby S.
"Briggs, daughters of the aforesaid Charles and
"Eliza, to hold and occupy all the rights, powers,
"and privileges in and to said farm secured to
"them under said will, reference to said will
"being hereby had and made."

The next deed or indenture was that of Silas Casey, dated August 6, 1855, the consideration being as follows:

"Upon the conditions that any rights
"and privileges granted to Abby P. Casey, and
"Elizabeth G. Casey, in said farm by the last
"will and testament of the aforesaid Thomas
"Goodale Casey, reference to said will being
"had, shall be continued to them, the said
"Abby P. and Elizabeth G., during their lives."

The next deed obtained was that of Edwin Augustus Casey and Margaret Jane Casey, his wife, dated December 18, 1855, the consideration being \$1500.00 cash in hand paid upon the delivery of the deed.

The next deed was that of William Maxwell Greene, dated February 11, 1856, the consideration being one dollar.

The next deed was that of Thomas Casey Greene and Margaret, his wife, dated May 29, 1856, the consideration being one dollar.

On the 13th of August, 1856, Edward H. Eldredge conveyed back to Nathaniel Greene the share of the farm the said Eldredge had purchased of him the said Nathaniel, and the next deed obtained was that of Nathaniel Greene, dated August 22, 1856, the consideration being \$500. in cash paid and also notes of the said Greene held by the residuary estate of Thomas G. Casey, amounting to \$1178 12/100, and of which Thomas L. Casey was the beneficiary.

The next deed obtained was that of Charles Collins Greene, a resident of Chili. S. America, dated August 28, 1856, the consideration being one dollar.

The next deed obtained was that of Sarah A. Greene, Guardian of the heirs of Christopher Greene, dated January 24, 1857, the consideration being \$500.00 cash.

This placed the estate in the hands of Thomas L. Casey, subject to the life claims of several parties, and at a cost in money to him of \$3,678 12/100.

On May 6, 1859, Louisa Casey died, and her claims expired, and on November 13, 1862, Eliza Briggs died and her claims expired.

On the 22nd of September, 1866, Charles Briggs, Elizabeth G. Briggs and Abby Sophia Briggs united in a deed in which they relinquished to Thomas L. Casey all claims of any and every nature upon the farm. This deed was given after the estate had been in my hands eleven years, during which time I had fulfilled every obligation contained in my contracts with the most scrupulous exactness. The practical working of the terms upon which the estate was held amounted to my having to care for it, at great trouble and labor to myself; to secure fit tenants; to supervise the expenditure of funds upon it; and to endeavor to preserve it from waste and deterioration: and when my family, then of proper age to enjoy the country, wished to visit the estate, they were unable to do so, as the spare room in the Mansion House was found to be occupied by others. It was certainly not "convenient" to either myself or my family, that this condition of affairs should continue, and I was both willing and anxious to purchase whatever rights parties might have in the farm, so as to have the title to the place without a shadow. Upon a kind and respectful presentation of the case to the Briggs family, the above deed was at once sent me, without the slightest argument, criticism, or demand. The same is also true of the deed which follows and which was given to me by my father, General Silas Casey, about a year and a half after.

On the 13th of April, 1868, Silas Casey gave a new deed, in which he relinquished to Thomas L. Casey his share of the estate, without conditions attached.

AT LAST!

On the 5th of December, 1869, Mary Casey died, when all claims upon the farm were extinguished, and the estate, after a lapse of over fourteen years from the death of Thomas G. Casey, was once more held in fee by a single member of the family.

On the 1st of November, 1869, Thomas L. Casey gave to his father, General Silas Casey, a mortgage deed upon the farm to secure a loan of \$2,500.00, which loan, principal and interest, was paid April 9, 1875, and so recorded. The farm is today without any incumbrance whatever.

From the latter portion of the life of my G. G. Grandfather, Daniel Coggeshall, Esq., the farm has been almost continuously in the hands of tenants. Since 1769, no owner of the estate has lived upon it, excepting my G. Grandfather, Silas Casey, Esq., who moved there from Warwick March 25, 1787. He continued to reside upon the place until 1813, when he removed to East Greenwich, and resided with his son Wanton until his death on the 27th of September, 1814, and no other owner of the estate has since lived upon it.

TENANTS

From 1774 to 1782, William Browning was probably the tenant, but from 1782 to 1784 he certainly was.

From 1784 to 1785, the place was improved by Silas Casey by hired labor, he being unable to rent the estate.

From 1785 to 1787, Reynolds Knowles was the tenant, and during the last year of his lease Daniel Coggeshall lived in the farm house.

From 1787 to 1813, probably, the place was improved by Silas Casey, residing, as stated above, on the estate.

From 1809 to March 25, 1811, Langworthy Pearce was the tenant, who took the estate upon the halves.

From March 25, 1811 to March 25, 1814, George W. Watson was the tenant. The first year of his lease he paid \$500., and it is said that during his occupancy of the estate what are now the "sadny plains" bordering the Pettaquamscott River were fertile fields and that the soil in them was exhausted and run down by planting consecutive years with wheat, and failing to manure the land properly.

From March 25, 1814, to March 25, 1821, John L.

Watson was the tenant, probably a sub-tenant of his father, George W. Watson.

In Potter was tenant.

In 1835, Vincent Gardiner was the tenant.

From March 25, 1840 to March 25, 1857, Benjamin Hazard was the tenant at annual rentals varying from \$250. to \$200.

From March 25, 1857, to March 25, 1867. John H. Caswell was the tenant at rentals varying from \$200. to \$300. per year.

From March 25, 1867, to the present date Thomas J. Gould has been the tenant at rentals varying from \$350. to \$250. per year.

IMPROVEMENTS

At the time of the death of Thomas G. Casey. he was engaged in building a new barn and the stonework of its basement was well advanced. Thomas L. Casey completed the barn, and also rebuilt the sheep-sheds, changing their frontage. He has also built a carriage-house and woodshed, the roof of the ice-house, a new corn-crib, pig-house. a new well-curb, and other out buildings, and generally repaired all the buildings. Thomas G. Casey had put a piazza to the mansion house, and re-shingled and clapboarded this building a short time before his death. Thomas L. Casey has rebuilt many of the principal walls on the farm and has built entirely new the two walls bordering the main road crossing the estate, thus helping to bring about a removal of the gates through Boston Neck. He also set out a number of elm trees and built and planted a cranberry yard of about two acres in the swamp meadow, so called.

Having a most agreeable climate during the latter portions of the summer and the early fall, the farm has at those seasons been the favorite resort for a few weeks of the families of its owners. The children of my Grandfather, Wanton Casey, went down there every summer and two of them, Thomas Goodale and Abby Sophia. were born on the estate. Among the earliest recollections of my father as a boy, are his summer visits to "the farm."

There was at one time a fishing privilege belonging to the estate on the Pettaquamscutt River, where large quantities of striped bass and herring were caught, and the seaweed privilege on the beach, until the construction of the wharf at Saunderstown, was not surpassed on any farm in Boston Neck north of South Ferry. The mansion house stands 135 feet above the level of the water and about 80 rods back from the shore. There are three old

orchards on the place, the one immediately in the rear of the house having been set out by my G. Grandfather, Silas Casey.

WHERE FIVE GENERATIONS ARE BURIED

The Family Burying Ground of my family is also upon this estate, and in it are the representative remains of five generations of my own name, with collateral ancestors and relatives.

UNPROFITABLE PROPERTY

As a piece of property, the place is nearly valueless. Not a penny of income have I ever received from it. The expenditures in repairs, improvements, and betterments, I have put upon the place up to the present time, have amounted to \$10,276.14, while the rents have amounted to but \$7,458.37. The soil generally is exhausted in fertility, much grown up in brush and swampy grasses, the mansion-house dilapidated, and the fields stony. But as an heir-loom for the preservation of which many sacrifices have been made by my ancestors, and as a repository of the ashes of my beloved kindred, the place is beyond price, and I trust will ever be zealously guarded and cherished by me and mine.

(Signed) THO. LINCOLN CASEY.

Washington, D. C.,
May 23, 1881.

NOTE:—In the summer of 1892, I named this estate "Nauaukut," which was the Indian name of what is now called "Boston Neck," or that part of the Narragansett Shore between the Pettaquamscutt or Narrow River and the Bay.

T. L. C.

"Nauaukut"
Nau-auk-ut.

Namcock, or properly
Nam-auk-ut.

Auk-ut, sometimes abbreviated to kut or cot, as a place terminal, means "land" or "country." (See Vol. II, Mag. of N. E. History, p. 6).

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